

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 DHA-05 L-03 H-02 SCA-01
/031 W

-----026506 240309Z /72

R 240204Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4455
INFO ALL USCONS MEXICO

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 MEXICO 14112

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CARR, MX
SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF US/MEXICO PRISONER TRANSFER
TREATY: PRISONER WORK RECORDS

REF: MEXICO 11440#

1. SUMMARY: THE DATA FROM THE MEXICO CITY CONSULAR DISTRICT AND CONSTITUENT POSTS, IN RESPONSE TO REFTTEL, INDICATE THAT, IN GENERAL, WORK CREDITS (WHETHER OR NOT ACTUAL WORK IS AVAILABLE) ARE GRANTED TO PRISONERS WITHOUT EXTORTION ALTHOUGH THIS WAS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE IN THE PAST (SEE PARAGRAPH 2). SOME OF THE PRISONS KEEP NO RECORDS AT ALL BUT AWARD CREDIT WHILE OTHERS MAINTAIN ACCURATE COMPUTATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. DUE TO THE BROAD VARIATION IN RECORD KEEPING FROM ONE PRISON TO ANOTHER, FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY BROKEN DOWN BY CONSULAR DISTRICT:

MEXICO CITY

WITHIN THE FEDERAL DISTRICT WORK CREDIT, ACCURATELY RECORDED, IS GENERALLY AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO WANT IT.
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NO CASES OF EXTORTION HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE PAST YEAR ALTHOUGH MANY PRISONERS ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES IN RECORD KEEPING AND BRIBES PAID FOR WORK CREDITS WHEN THEY WERE INTERNED IN THE NOW DEFUNCT PRISON AT LECUMBERRI. EMBASSY IS STILL WORKING ON POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING EQUITABLE SOLUTION TO LECUMBERRI WORK CREDIT PROBLEM.

OUTSIDE THE FEDERAL DISTRICT WORK CREDIT IS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT BUT PRISON DIRECTORS HAVE ASSURED VISITING CONSULAR OFFICERS THAT ALL INMATES ARE BEING CREDITED EVEN IF SUCH WORK IS UNAVAILABLE.
CIUDAD JUAREZ

WORK CREDIT, ACCURATELY RECORDED, IS AVAILABLE TO ALL PRISONERS WITHOUT REPORTED EXTORTION. IN THE PAST EXTORTION IN THIS AREA WAS PREVALENT. POST OPINION IS THAT WITH THE EXCHANGE TREATY IMMINENT AND GOM OFFICIALS VISITING PRISONS TO INTERVIEW PRISONERS, BOTH PARTIES PLAYING DOWN EXTORTION FOR FEAR OF DELAY IN THE TRANSFER.

GUADALAJARA

IN COLIMA PENAL AND GUADALAJARA PENAL, ALTHOUGH NO WORK IS AVAILABLE, WORK CREDIT IS AUTOMATICALLY GRANTED STARTING FROM DATE OF CONSIGNMENT IN THE PENAL. NO EXTORTION IS REPORTED.

IN GUANAJUATO WORK IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL PRISONERS. ACCURATE RECORDS OF WORK CREDIT ARE KEPT AND NO EXTORTION HAS BEEN REPORTED.

IN PUERTO VALLARTA WORK IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR EACH U.S. PRISONER. NO WORK CREDITS ARE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY
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IF THE PRISONER DOES NOT WORK.

INFORMATION IS NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR MORELIA.

HERMOSILLO

WORK CREDIT IS NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE BUT PRISON DIRECTORS HAVE BEEN LIBERAL IN THEIR INTERPRETATIONS OF WHAT CONSTITUTES A WORK COMMISSION. POST CONSIDERS THAT PRISONS DO NOT KEEP ACCURATE WORK RECORDS. NO REPORTED EXTORTION.

MATAMOROS

WORK CREDIT IS NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE BUT WORK COMMISSIONS ARE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY REGARDLESS OF AVAILABILITY OF JOBS. ACCURATE RECORDS ARE MAINTAINED AND NO EXTORTION IS REPORTED.

MAZATLAN

IN MAZATLAN, CULIACAN AND LOS MOCHIS, SOME WORK COMMISSIONS ARE AVAILABLE, LIMITED PRIMARILY TO PRODUCTION

OF HANDMADE ITEMS. HOWEVER, IN THE ABSENCE OF A COMMISSION, WORK CREDITS ARE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY. THE DEGREE OF ACCURACY OF RECORD KEEPING IS DOUBTFUL. NO EXTORTION IS REPORTED.

IN LA PAZ, WORK CREDIT IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL U.S. CITIZEN PRISONERS. ACCURATE RECORDS ARE MAINTAINED AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO COMPLAINTS OF EXTORTION.

NOTE BY OC/T: #REFTEL BELIEVED TO BE INCORRECT
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/031 W

-----026492 240309Z /72

R 240204Z AUG 77 ZEL ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE 4456
INFO ALL USCONS MEXICO

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MERIDA

WORK IS AVAILABLE BUT POST BELIEVES THAT RECORDS ARE GENERALLY HAPHAZARDLY KEPT. PRISON DIRECTOR IN CHETUMAL HAS INDICATED THAT IF NECESSARY WORK CREDIT WOULD BE GRANTED EVEN IF COMMISSIONS ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

MONTERREY

WORK CREDIT IS AVAILABLE, AND IS GIVEN FOR ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND CULTURAL EVENTS.

ACCURATE RECORDS ARE MAINTAINED ACCORDING TO PRISON OFFICIALS BUT POST BELIEVES THAT ON OCCASION WORK RECORDS ARE CREATED AS NECESSARY ALTHOUGH AT NO DETRIMENT TO THE PRISONER. NO EXTORTION IS REPORTED.

NUEVO LAREDO

WORK CREDIT IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL U.S. CITIZEN PRISONERS IN NUEVO LAREDO, AND ACCURATE RECORDS ARE MAINTAINED WITHOUT EXTORTION.

IN PIEDRAS NEGRAS WORK IS UNAVAILABLE AND COMMISSIONS NOT AUTOMATICALLY GRANTED IN THE ABSENCE OF AVAILABLE WORK. POST SUSPECTS THAT LOCAL PRISON DIRECTOR MAY UNCLASSIFIED

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AT TIMES GRANT WORK CREDIT FOR A PRICE.

TIJUANA

VERY LITTLE WORK AVAILABLE BUT CREDIT GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY DESPITE THIS. POST ASSUMES ACCURATE RECORDS ARE NOT KEPT REGULARLY BUT CREATED WHEN NEEDED. NO EXTORTION IS REPORTED.

3. ACCORDING TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PREVENCIÓN SOCIAL, LIC. MARCIAL FLORES, WHEN A PRISONER IS TRANSFERRED FROM ONE PRISON TO ANOTHER HIS ENTIRE RECORD FROM THE INITIAL ARREST, INCLUDING WORK CREDITS, GOES WITH HIM. IN GOM LEGAL JARGON, THIS IS CALLED THE PARTIDA (LITERALLY DEPARTURE RECORD), AND EVERY PRISONER IN MEXICO, WHETHER A FOREIGNER OR CITIZEN, HAS A PARTIDA IN HIS FILE.
THOMPSON

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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